



Sunday, September 29, 2024
The Festival of St. Michael & All Angels

Service Theme
FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST
HAVE POWERFUL ALLIES

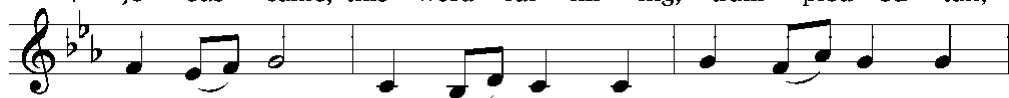
Green Berets. Rangers. SEALs. Delta Force. These special forces groups are part of the United States military. They are elite: highly trained with unique skill sets. Many of their important missions are carried out in total secrecy. Two weeks ago, we acknowledged that we are in the middle of a massive spiritual war. Today, we thank God that we fight this war with the protection of special forces. Since the fifth century, Christians have observed the Festival of St. Michael and All Angels. We commemorate that God has sent Michael, one of the great archangels described in Scripture, and countless of his fellow angels to protect and serve mankind. Let us rejoice that followers of Christ have powerful allies!

499 Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken

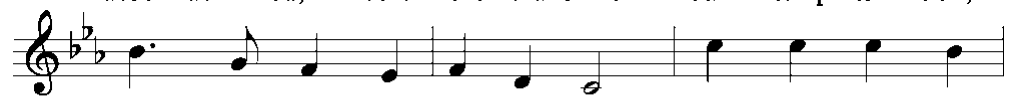
CW 499



1 Christ, the Lord of hosts, un-shak - en by the dev - il's
 2 Mi - chael fought the heav'n - ly bat - tle, god - ly an - gels
 3 Long on earth the bat - tle ra - ges, since the ser - pent's
 4 Je - sus came, this word ful - fill - ing, tram - pled Sa - tan,



seeth - ing rage, thwarts the plan of Sa - tan's min - ions,
 by his side; warred a - gainst the an - cient ser - pent,
 first de - ceit twist - ed God's com - mand to Ad - am,
 death de - fied; bore the brunt of our temp - ta - tion,



wins the strife from age to age; con - quers sin and
 foiled the beast, so full of pride, cast him earth - bound
 made for - bid - den fruit look sweet. Then the curse of
 on the wretch - ed tree he died. Yet to life was



death for - ev - er, slams them in their steel - y cage.
 with his an - gels; now he prowls, un - sat - is - fied.
 God was spo - ken: "You'll lie crushed be - neath his feet!"
 raised vic - to - rious, by his life our life sup - plied.

5 Swift as lightning falls the tyrant
 from his heav'nly perch on high,
 as the word of Jesus' vict'ry
 floods the earth and fills the sky.
 Wounded by a wound eternal
 now his judgment has drawn nigh!

6 Jesus, send your angel legions
 when the foe would us enslave.
 Hold us fast when sin assaults us;
 come then, Lord, your people save.
 Overthrow at last the dragon;
 send him to his fiery grave.

The Service
Setting Three (p. 188)

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 188

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190

In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the un - it - y of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and

praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men. A - men.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 191



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to



God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,



and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman

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The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals. Mercifully grant that as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your direction they may help and defend us here on earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Daniel 10:1–14

The LORD sent an angel to strengthen and serve Daniel with an important message. He speaks of how the arch-angel Michael came to aid him in his battle against the “kings” of Persia, so he could come to Daniel.

¹In the third year of Cyrus, king of Persia, a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar. Now the message was true. It was about a great war. He understood the message, and understanding came to him through the vision.

²In those days I, Daniel, was mourning for three whole weeks. ³I ate no expensive food, and no meat or wine entered my mouth. I did not anoint myself at all until the completion of three whole weeks.

⁴On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, I was beside the Great River, that is, the Tigris.

⁵I looked up, and there, right in front of me, I saw a man dressed in linen. Around his waist he was wearing a belt made from gold of Uphaz. ⁶His body was like topaz, and his face looked like lightning. His eyes were like burning torches, and his arms and feet were like polished bronze. The sound of his words was like the sound of an army.

⁷Only I, Daniel, saw the vision. The men who were with me did not see the vision, but they were overwhelmed by fear and trembling, so they ran away to hide. ⁸I was left alone, and I saw this great vision. No strength was left in me. My appearance changed for the worse. I became very pale, and I had no strength. ⁹I heard the sound of his words, but as I heard the sound of his words, I was in a deep sleep, facedown, with my face to the ground.

¹⁰Then a hand touched me and pulled me up, trembling, to my hands and knees. ¹¹He said to me, “Daniel, you are a highly valued man. Understand the words that I am speaking to you. Stand up where you are, because now I have been sent to you.” When he spoke this word to me, I stood up, shaking.

¹²He said to me, “Do not be afraid, Daniel, because from the first day that you began to commit your heart to gaining understanding and to humbling yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come in response to your words. ¹³However, an officer for the kingdom of Persia was standing against me for twenty-one days. Yet Michael, one of the chief officers, came to help me, for I had been left there against the kings of Persia. ¹⁴I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the latter days, because the vision concerns days still to come.”

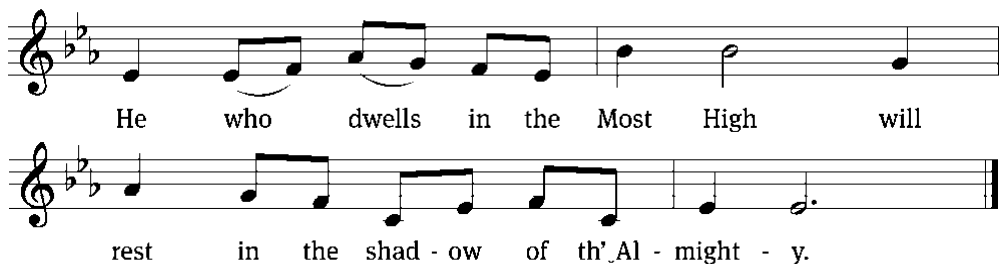
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

91A The Shadow of the Almighty

Psalm 91A

Refrain



He who dwells in the Most High will
rest in the shadow of th'Al-might-y.

Tone



Surely he will save you from the / fowler's snare
and from the deadly / pestilence.

He will cover you with his / feathers,
and under his wings you will find / refuge.

You will not fear the ter- / ror of night,
nor the arrow that / flies by day,
nor the pestilence that stalks in the / darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at / midday. *Refrain*

If you say, "The LORD is my / refuge,"
and you make the Most High your / dwelling,
no harm will over- / take you,
no disaster will come / near your tent.

For he will command his angels con- / cerning you
to guard you in / all your ways;
they will lift you up / in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot a- / gainst a stone.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Dale A. Witte

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Second Reading

Revelation 12:7–12

When war broke out in heaven, Michael and his angels defeated Satan and his demons.

⁷There was also a war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought with the dragon. The dragon fought back along with his angels, ⁸but he was not strong enough. There was no longer a place for them in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was thrown down—the ancient serpent, the one called the Devil and Satan, the one who leads the whole inhabited earth astray—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

¹⁰I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying:
Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Christ,
because the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down,
the one who accuses them before our God day and night.

¹¹They conquered him
because of the blood of the Lamb and
because of the word of their testimony.
They did not love their lives in the face of death.

¹²For this reason, rejoice, you heavens and those who dwell in them.

Woe to the earth and the sea,
for the Devil has gone down to you.
He is full of rage, because he knows that his time is short.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 1:14

Alleluia, alleluia. Are not all angels ministering spirits sent out to serve for the benefit of those who are going to inherit salvation? Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 18:1–10

Jesus warns against causing a child a sin. Why? Because their angels are before God reporting everything that is done to them.

¹At that time the disciples approached Jesus and asked, “Who then is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²Jesus called a little child, had him stand in the middle of them, ³and said, “Amen I tell you: Unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵And whoever receives a little child like this one in my name receives me.

⁶“But, if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a huge millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. ⁷Woe to the world because of temptations to sin. Temptations must come, but woe to that person through whom the temptation comes!

⁸“If your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than to be thrown into the eternal fire with two hands or two feet. ⁹If your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away from you. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to be thrown into hell fire with two eyes. ¹⁰See to it that you do not look down on one of these little ones, because I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

500 Lord God, to You We Give All Praise

CW 500



1 Lord God, to you we give all praise, with grate - ful
2 They shine with light and heav'n - ly grace and con - stant -
3 They nev - er rest nor sleep as we; their whole de -
4 The an - cient drag - on is their foe; his en - vy



hearts our voic - es raise that an - gel hosts you did cre -
ly be - hold your face. They heed your voice, they know it
light is but to be with you, Lord Je - sus, and to
and his wrath they know. It al - ways is his aim and



ate a - round your glo - rious throne to wait.
well; in god - ly wis - dom they ex - cel.
keep your lit - tle flock, your lambs and sheep.
pride your Chris - tian peo - ple to di - vide.

- 5 As he of old deceived the world
and into sin and death has hurled,
so now he subtly lies in wait
to undermine both Church and state.
- 6 A roaring lion, round he goes,
no halt nor rest he ever knows;
he seeks the Christians to devour
and slay them by his dreadful pow'r.
- 7 But watchful is the angel band
that follows Christ on ev'ry hand
to guard his people where they go
and break the counsel of the foe.
- 8 O Lord, awaken songs of praise
for angel hosts that guard our days;
teach us to serve you and adore
as angels do forevermore.

Sermon - 2 Kings 6:8–17 (with special emphasis on vs. 15-17)

“O Lord, open our eyes that we may see!”

- 1) *We often feel alone and afraid.*
- 2) *Reassure us of your protection and presence.*

⁸Now when the king of Aram was waging war against Israel, he would make plans with his officials, saying, “My camp will be at such and such a place.”

⁹But the man of God would send a message to the king of Israel, saying, “Be careful when you pass this place because the Arameans are going down there.” ¹⁰So the king of Israel would send scouts to the place that the man of God had pointed out. So the man of God warned him, and he was kept safe—and not just once or twice.

¹¹The king of Aram was enraged because of this. He summoned his officials and said to them, “Won't you tell me who of us is for the king of Israel?”

¹²One of his officials said, “No, my lord the king. It is Elisha, the prophet in Israel, who tells the king of Israel the words which you speak in your bedroom.”

¹³Then he said, “Go and see where he is. Then I'll send men and capture him.”

He was told, “Dothan is where he is.”

¹⁴So he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They came at night and surrounded the city. ¹⁵When the man of God's servant got up early and went out, there were soldiers, horses, and chariots surrounding the city. So his attendant said to Elisha, “Oh no, my lord! What will we do?”

¹⁶He answered, “Don't be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

¹⁷Then Elisha prayed and said, “O LORD, open his eyes so that he can see.” Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he saw that the hills were full of horses and chariots of fire, all around Elisha.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

O Lord of hosts, eternal, immortal, and invisible King, we praise and thank you for protecting your people through your holy angels, who always behold your face and worship your majesty. Grant, we pray, as you have commanded them to do your will and to serve those who are the heirs of salvation, that they may also care for us that we may be delivered from every peril of body and soul that threatens us. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Be merciful to the people of all nations, O Lord. And since you will reveal your Son Jesus from heaven with his mighty angels to take vengeance on all who have denied you and rejected your love in Christ, extend for the nations their time of grace so that they might come to believe and live eternally. Use us messengers as of your gospel to penetrate the powers of darkness and to bring many to glory. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Look on our own land with your favor. Give our citizens a love for what is true and right. Grant your blessing to all who have authority over us. Prosper our Lutheran schools and colleges as they train many to proclaim your grace. Bless those who work with their minds and those who labor with their hands so that all human work may benefit your holy Church. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Direct your holy angels to serve all who are in want, trouble, pain, sorrow, disappointment, anxiety, or any other trouble. Comfort them with your power and grace. [Especially bless... *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Grant that your presence may brighten our homes, that children may learn of your tender love, and that all parents may walk in the counsel of your Son. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer.

May your holy angels serve you as they serve us and at the end of our lives lead them to carry us to the riches of paradise.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer. Amen.

Offering

(Go to page 171)

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

836 I Walk in Danger All the Way

CW 836 sts. 1, 4-5



1 I walk in dan - ger all the way; the thought shall nev - er

4 I walk with an - gels all the way, they shield me and be -

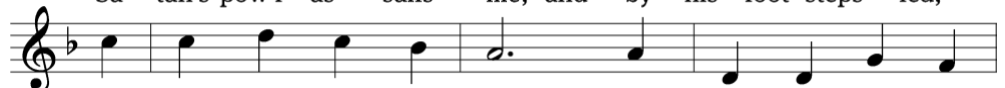
5 I walk with Je - sus all the way, his guid - ance nev - er



leave me that Sa - tan, who has marked his prey, is
friend me; all Sa - tan's pow'r is held at bay when
fails me; with - in his wounds I find a stay when



plot - ting to de - ceive me. This foe with hid - den snares
heav'n - ly hosts at - tend me. They are my sure de - fense;
Sa - tan's pow'r as - sails me; and by his foot-steps led,



may seize me un - a - wares if e'er I fail to
all fear and sor - row, hence! Un - harmed by foes, do
my path I safe - ly tread. No e - vil leads my



watch and pray; I walk in dan - ger all the way.
what they may, I walk with an - gels all the way.
soul a - stray; I walk with Je - sus all the way.

Text: tr. Ditlef G. Ristad, 1863-1938, alt.; Hans A. Brorson, 1694-1764
Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, Halle, 1708, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen
Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements

Church Cleaners

October 6 – Luke // October 13 – Timothy

Thanksgiving Flowers

For anyone wishing to help beautify the Altar for Thanksgiving, please drop off the plant(s) of your choice (traditionally mums) at the church by 11:00 am on Saturday, October 12th. You are welcomed to take your plants home after the Thanksgiving Worship service or, if you wish, you may leave them at church to continue to beautify the altar for upcoming worship services.

Non-member Baptism

Yesterday, September 28th, 2024, Mackenzie Lilliam Rail, daughter of Vincent George Rail and Jaymelea Donaldson, became a daughter of God through Holy Baptism. Witnesses were Monique Rail and Justin Dube-Flower.

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (29) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour
4:00 pm **Abiding Word Anniversary**
- We (2) 4:00 pm Communicating Christ (BIC)
5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" (BIC)
- Th (3) 10:30 am Devotion at Longfield Nursing Home
6:00 pm Illumine (at St. Paul's)
6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
- Fr (4) 3:00 pm Online Women's Bible Study: Romans
4:30 pm Confirmation (D)
- Su (6) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship (with Communion)
11:30 am First Fellowship
3:00 pm **Worship in Poltimore**
- We (9) 4:00 pm Communicating Christ (BIC)
5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" (BIC)
- Th (10) 6:00 pm Illumine (at St. Paul's)
6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
- Fr (11) 3:00 pm Online Women's Bible Study: Romans
4:30 pm Confirmation (D)
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Su (13) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Thanksgiving Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour

Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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